

Claims 1-3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The A crimping tool to crimp a cylindrical ring about cylindrical plastic pipe, as defined in Claim 1, defined in Claim 16,~~ further comprising: pivot control means to limit the spaced distance ~~apart~~ said first and second jaws can be opened, such that distal ends of said jaws may be used to gauge whether said ring has been crimped to a specified diameter.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The A crimping tool to crimp a cylindrical ring about cylindrical plastic pipe, as defined in Claim 1, defined in Claim 4,~~ wherein: said pivot control means ~~to limit~~ comprises a set screw threading inserted through one of said first and second jaws, a distal end of said set screw bearing against an inner surface of a second one of said first and second jaws.

Claims 6-15 (Canceled).

Please add the following new claims:

16. (New) A crimping tool constructed for securely affixing a cylindrical ring about a cylindrical pipe and overlying connecting tube, said tool comprising:

- A. a first elongated handle incorporating a proximal end and a distal end;
- B. a second elongated handle incorporating a proximal end and a distal end;
- C. said first elongated handle and said second elongated handle being pivotally interconnected to each other adjacent their respective proximal ends for enabling the proximal end of the first elongated handle and the proximal end of the second elongated handle to move in an arcuate direction in response to the arcuate movement of the distal ends of the first and second elongated handles;
- D. a clamping jaw assembly comprising
  - a) a first clamping jaw incorporating a proximal end and a distal end,
  - b) a second clamping jaw incorporating a proximal end and a distal end,
  - c) said first clamping jaw and said second clamping jaw comprising substantially identical constructions and being mounted in juxtaposed, spaced, adjacent, side to side cooperating relationship with each other,
  - d) said first clamping jaw comprising a first crimping zone formed by an arcuately shaped recess formed adjacent the distal end thereof,

- e) said second clamping jaw comprising a second crimping zone formed by an arcuately shaped recess formed adjacent the distal end thereof and positioned in cooperating, facing relationship with the arcuately shaped recess of the first clamping jaw for establishing a substantially circular shaped crimping zone,
- f) said first clamping jaw comprising a first pivot axis formed along the length thereof between the distal end and the proximal end, and said second clamping jaw comprising a second pivot axis formed along the length thereof between the distal end and the proximal end, with the first pivot axis and said second pivot axis being positioned in spaced, cooperating relationship with each other,
- g) a tie plate extending between the first clamping jaw and the second clamping jaw, with one end of the tie plate being secured to the first clamping jaw through the first pivot axis and the second end of the tie plate being secured to the second clamping jaw through the second pivot axis, whereby said tie plate cooperates with the first clamping jaw and the second clamping jaw to assure cooperating pivoting movement thereof between a first crimping zone opened position and a second, crimping zone closed position,

- h) a first pivot defining securing pin mounted between the proximal end of the first handle and the proximal end of the first clamping jaw for affixing the first clamping jaw to the first handle member in a manner which enables the first clamping jaw to arcuately pivot in response to the arcuate pivoting movement of the first handle member, and
- i) a second pivot defining securing pin mounted between the proximal end of the second handle and the proximal end of the second clamping jaw for affixing the second clamping jaw to the second handle member in a manner which enables the second clamping jaw to arcuately pivot in response to the arcuate pivoting movement of the second handle member;

whereby the crimping tool enables increased forces to be delivered to the crimping zone for securely affixing the cylindrical ring in the desired position by merely arcuately pivoting the handle members thereof.

17. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 16, wherein the first clamping jaw and the second clamping jaw each comprise substantially flat, smooth, toothless side edges and are mounted in side to side relationship as mirror images of each other, with the first crimping zone of the first clamping jaw being formed in the smooth, toothless side edge thereof and comprise a smooth, arcuately curved surface extending

about 180°, terminating at each end with the smooth, toothless, side edge of the first clamping jaw.

18. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 17, wherein the second crimping zone of the second clamping jaw is formed in the smooth, toothless side edge thereof and comprises a smooth, arcuately curved surface extending about 180°, terminating at each end with the smooth, toothless side edge of the second clamping jaw, and cooperatively associated with the first crimping zone of the first clamping jaw to form a substantially circular shaped crimping zone when said jaws are in their closed position.

19. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 18, wherein the first clamping jaw is constructed for arcuate pivoting movement about the first pivot axis in response to movement of the first handle member and the second clamping jaw is constructed for arcuate pivoting movement about the second pivot axis in response to movement of the second handle member, said first pivot axis and said second pivot axis being in spaced, cooperating relationship for causing the crimping zone to be open when said first clamping jaw and said second clamping jaw are pivoted into the first position while also being closed when said first clamping jaw and said second clamping jaw are pivoted into the second position, with said second position being defined by abutting contact between the smooth, toothless side edge of the first clamping jaw adjacent the first crimping zone with the smooth, toothless side edge of the second clamping jaw

adjacent the second crimping zone, with said contact being achieved substantially simultaneously.

20. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 19, wherein the center of the crimping zone, the first pivot axis, and the second pivot axis define a substantially triangular shape.

21. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 20, wherein the triangular shape is further defined as comprising one selected from the group consisting of equilateral triangles and isosceles triangles.

22. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 21, wherein the crimping zone is further defined as comprising a diameter of 0.5 inches in the base of the triangle is further defined as ranging between about 2.8 and 3.0 cm.

23. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 20, wherein the spaced distance between the first pivot axis and the first pivot defining securing pin is substantially equal to the spaced distance between the second pivot axis and the second pivot defining securing pin.

24. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 20, wherein the base of the triangle is further defined as being constructed with a minimum length which enables

the first clamping jaw and second clamping jaw to arcuately pivot in a manner which enables the smooth, toothless side edges adjacent the first crimping zone and the smooth, toothless side edges adjacent the second crimping zone to be brought into contact with each other in a substantially single plane as the first and second clamping jaws are moved into their second, closed position.

25. (New) The crimping tool defined in Claim 24, wherein the first clamping jaw and the second clamping jaw each arcuately pivot about two separate and independent axes in response to the movement of the handle members, and the spaced distance between the first pivot axis and the second pivot axis being maintained at a minimum in order to produce substantially increased forces on the arcuately curved surfaces of the first crimping zone and the second crimping zone as the surfaces peripherally surround and compress the cylindrical ring into engagement with the cylindrical pipe and overlying connecting tube, thereby enabling the crimping tool of the present invention to securely fix the cylindrical ring in the desired position with greater ease and efficiency.